16th July 1953]

Libraries in Madras City.

*473 Q.—SRI A. RATHINAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) how many libraries there are in the City of Madras;

(b) for how many the Government have given subsidies; and

(c) the libraries not assisted by the Government so far and the reason for such non-assistance?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—" (a) Eighty-five.

" (b) Seven libraries have been paid grants from State funds for 1952–53.

" (c) A statement[a] furnishing the information is laid on the table of the House."

SRI A. RATHINAM:—" With reference to the answer placed on the table of the House yesterday in reply to my question, may I know, Sir, whether libraries Nos. 67 to 72 are run by Harijans and if so, will the Government consider the desirability of giving them subsidies?"

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—" These libraries do not satisfy the condition prescribed for aid from State funds."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY:—" May I know, Sir, whether the libraries are expected to keep a definite number of books?"

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—" I would refer the hon. Member to the rules concerning libraries eligible for aid under the Madras Public Libraries Rules. I do not think there need be any definite number of books."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM:—" May I know, Sir, whether the City Library authority is conducting any library, if not, why they are not maintaining any library even though they have Rs. 5 lakhs and odd at their disposal for conducting libraries?"

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—" Though in fact, this is a separate question, I would like to inform the House that the Madras Library authority has been anxious to start a central library for which they are in search of suitable accommodation and they have not yet succeeded in finding accommodation."

Acquisition of lands for cheri sites in certain villages of Tiruvallur taluk.

*482 Q.—SRI M. DHARMALINGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the proposals for acquiring lands for cheri sites as mentioned below are pending with the Government, and if so, how long and for what reasons:—

(a) Thirur,

[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 368–370 infra.